

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 NEAE-00 /087 W

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P R 101200Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5653

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 2200

FROM AMBASSADOR LODGE'S OFFICE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, VT

SUBJECT: TRIPOLI CHRISTIAN-MOSLEM DIALOGUE: VATICAN CLARIFICATION

REF: A. ROME 2319 B. TRIPOLI 0168 (NOTAL)

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. IN FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE IN "L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO," FEB 9-10, VIRGILIO LEVI, VICE DIRECTOR OF VATICAN PRESS ORGAN, PROVIDES "CLARIFICATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS"

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ON THE TRIPOLI DIALOGUE. ARTICLE STATES THAT "THERE IS NO

REASON TO PERCEIVE -- AS SOME ORGANS OF INFORMATION HAVE --  
THAT THERE HAS BEEN A SHIFT IN THE ATTITUDES OF THE HOLY SEE  
REGARDING PALESTINE AND JERUSALEM PROBLEMS."

2. ACCORDING TO LEVI, WHO WAS PRESENT AT TRIPOLI, EACH SIDE  
HAD PREPARED A TEXT FOR FINAL COMMUNIQUE. DURING THE DISCUS-  
SIONS IT WAS REPEATEDLY MAINTAINED BY THE VATICAN DELEGATES  
THAT POLITICAL TOPICS SHOULD NOT BE INTRODUCED. IN SPITE OF  
THIS, MOSLEMS FELT IT NECESSARY TO INVOLVE SEMINAR IN LEBAN-  
ESE CONFLICT, JUDAISM AND ZIONISM, PALESTINE AND JERUSALEM,  
AND ON THIRD WORLD AND SITUATION IN THE PHILIPPINES. SINCE  
THESE POINTS CONSTITUTED ONLY SMALL PART OF MOSLEM DRAFT,  
CHRISTIANS INVOLVED IN JOINT DRAFTING COMMITTEE PREFERRED TO  
CONCENTRATE ON OTHER, MORE IMPORTANT, POINTS. CONSEQUENTLY,  
THERE WAS NOT SUFFICIENT TIME TO STUDY THOROUGHLY FINAL POINTS  
OF A POLITICAL NATURE. THUS THEY REMAINED IN ARABIC TEXT  
WHICH WAS LATER READ TO FINAL SESSION OF DIALOGUE. FOLLOWING  
THE READING, CARDINAL PIGNEDOLI SAID THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE  
FOR HIM TO SIGN DOCUMENT WHICH INCLUDED POINTS BEYOND HIS AREA  
OF COMPETENCE. AFTER A DISCUSSION BETWEEN TWO CHIEFS OF DELE-  
GATION, A JOINT STATEMENT WAS ISSUED (SEE PARA 4, REF A).  
ACCORDING TO LEVI, PARAGRAPHS 20 AND 21 REMAIN EXPRESSIONS  
OF THE MOSLEM DELEGATION AND DO NOT CONSTITUTE A SHIFT IN  
HOLY SEE'S POSITION VIS-A-VIS PALESTINE AND JERUSALEM PROB-  
LEMS.

3. THE ARTICLE ENDS WITH FRENCH TEXT OF PARAGRAPHS 20 AND 21  
"WHICH WERE NOT ACCEPTED BY THE VATICAN DELEGATION" AND TEXT  
OF THE ADDED DECLARATION. TEXTS OF PARAGRAPHS 20 AND 21 ARE  
CORRECTLY CITED IN PARA 4, REF B, WITH EXCEPTION THAT REFER-  
ENCE TO JERUSALEM IS AS FOLLOWS: "TO AFFIRM THE ARABIC CHAR-  
ACTER OF THE CITY OF JERUSALEM, REJECTING PROJECTS FOR JUDA-  
IZATION AND INTERNATIONALIZATION" -- E.G. IT OMITTS MENTION OF  
PARTITION. END UNCLASSIFIED

4. COMMENT: CONVERSATIONS WITH VARIOUS SOURCES CLOSE TO  
VATICAN INCLUDING OBSERVERS AT FINAL SESSION OF TRIPOLI DIA-  
LOGUE, CONFIRM THAT INCIDENT REGARDING FINAL COMMUNIQUE WAS  
RESULT OF INATTENTIVENESS ON PART OF VATICAN DELEGATION.  
RELIABLE OBSERVER AT CONFERENCE HAS INFORMED US THAT THERE WAS  
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NO REPEAT NO MOSLEM "TRICK" INVOLVED IN THE MATTER AND THAT  
VATICAN DELEGATION DID NOT BECOME FULLY AWARE OF DIMENSIONS  
OF PROBLEM UNTIL PRESS OBSERVERS HAD ALREADY FILED THEIR  
STORIES FROM TRIPOLI. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

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